

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Original) A method for prioritization of a network for one or more  
5 preferred groups, the method comprising the steps of:

a) determining if network information is assigned to one or more  
preferred groups; and

b) configuring a network to assign a higher priority to the network  
information when the network information is assigned to one or more preferred groups,  
10 the higher priority being relative to network information not assigned to one or more  
preferred groups.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises the  
step of marking the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups  
15 with a label, the label indicating that the network information is assigned to a preferred  
group.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2:  
further comprising the step of receiving the network information;  
20 wherein step (a) further comprises the step of determining that the network  
information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups comprises the label; and  
wherein step (b) further comprises the step of transmitting the network  
information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups before previously received  
network information is sent, the previously received network information not assigned to  
25 one or more of the preferred groups.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2:  
further comprising the step of receiving the network information;  
wherein step (a) further comprises the step of determining that the network  
30 information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups comprises the label; and

wherein step (b) further comprises the step of assigning priority of information within a queue, wherein the queue comprises additional network information that does not have the label and that was received before the network information having the label, and wherein the network information having the label is assigned higher  
5 priority than the additional network information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein step (b) further comprises the step of transmitting, based on the priority, the network information having the label before the additional network information, which does not have the label, is transmitted.

10 6. (Original) The method of claim 2:  
further comprising the step of receiving the network information;  
wherein step (a) further comprises the step of determining that the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups comprises the label; and  
15 wherein step (b) further comprises the steps of:

determining if there is a fast path over which the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups can be sent;  
and

20 transmitting the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups over the fast path when there is a fast path.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises the steps of:

25 determining if the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is being routed to or from an application running on a server; and

increasing resources of the application when the application is running on a server and when the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is assigned to a preferred group.

30 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises the steps of:

identifying a user;  
determining if a user belongs to a preferred group; and  
assigning network information to a preferred group when the user belongs  
to a preferred group.

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9. (Original) The method of claim 8:  
wherein step (a) further comprises the step of determining, when the user  
does belong to a preferred group, if the user is using an application for a preferred  
purpose; and

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wherein the step of assigning network information to a preferred group  
when the user belongs to a preferred group further comprises the step of assigning  
network information to a preferred group when the user belongs to the preferred group  
and when the user is using an application for a preferred purpose.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of assigning network  
information to a preferred group when the user belongs to a preferred group further  
comprises marking the network information with a label, indicating that the network  
information is assigned to a preferred group, when the user belongs to a preferred group.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the preferred groups comprise  
one or more of people with disabilities and medical professionals.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises the  
steps of:

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determining, at a firewall, if an application is to be blocked; and  
blocking network information from or to the application unless the  
network information is assigned to a preferred group.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises the  
steps of:

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comparing input biometric data from an individual with stored biometric data in a database;

determining if the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data;

and

5 determining that the network information belongs to a preferred group when the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data.

14. (Original) A method for prioritization of networks for preferred groups, the method comprising the steps of:

10 requesting a prioritization privilege of an individual;

determining, by accessing a database, the prioritization privilege of the individual; and

15 configuring a network to assign a higher priority to network information assigned to the individual when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the prioritization privilege comprises one or more of dates of use information, prioritization level information, and purpose information.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of configuring further comprises marking the network information with a label, which indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group, when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

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17. (Original) A method for prioritization of a network for one or more preferred groups, the method comprising the steps of:

determining if an individual belongs to one or more preferred groups;

marking network information associated with the individual with a priority

30 label; and

configuring a network to assign a higher priority, as compared to network information not marked with a priority label, to the marked network information.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of marking network  
5 information associated with the individual with a priority label comprises the step of marking network information produced by an application the individual is using with a priority label.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of determining if an  
10 individual belongs to one or more preferred groups comprises the steps of:

determining if the individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups;

determining a priority privilege of the individual when the individual exists in the database; and

15 determining, when the individual exists in the database, if the priority privilege indicates that network information associated with the individual is to be prioritized.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of determining if an  
20 individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups comprises the steps of:

determining if biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database; and

25 determining that the person is the individual and that the individual exists in the database when the biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database.

21. (Original) A system for prioritization of a network for one or more preferred groups, the system comprising:

30 a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:

a) determine if network information is assigned to one or more preferred groups; and

5           b) configure a network to assign a higher priority to the network information when the network information is assigned to one or more preferred groups, the higher priority being relative to network information not assigned to one or more preferred groups.

10   22.           (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (b), to mark the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups with a label, the label indicating that the network information is assigned to a preferred group.

15   23.           (Original) The system of claim 22:  
                  wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to receive the network information;

                  wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (a), to determine that the network information assigned to one or more of  
20   the preferred groups comprises the label; and

                  wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (b), to transmit the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups before previously received network information is sent, the previously received network information not assigned to one or more of the preferred groups.

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24.           (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (b), to:

                  determine if the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is being routed to or from an application running on a server; and

increase resources of the application when the application is running on a server and when the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is assigned to a preferred group.

5 25. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (a), to:

identify a user;

determine if a user belongs to a preferred group; and

10 assign network information to a preferred group when the user belongs to a preferred group.

26. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the preferred groups comprise one or more of people with disabilities and medical professionals.

15 27. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (b), to:

determine, at a firewall, if an application is to be blocked; and

block network information from or to the application unless the network information is assigned to a preferred group.

20 28. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when performing step (a), to:

compare input biometric data from an individual with stored biometric data in a database;

25 determine if the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data; and

determine that the network information belongs to a preferred group when the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data.

30 29. (Original) A system for prioritization of a network for one or more preferred groups, the system comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:

request a prioritization privilege of an individual;  
5 determine, by accessing a database, the prioritization privilege of the individual; and

configure a network to assign a higher priority to network information assigned to the individual when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

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30. (Original) The system of claim 29, wherein the prioritization privilege comprises one or more of dates of use information, prioritization level information, and purpose information.

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31. (Original) The system of claim 29, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when configuring a network, to mark the network information with a label, which indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group, when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

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32. (Original) A system for prioritization of a network for one or more preferred groups, the system comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:

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determine if an individual belongs to one or more preferred groups;  
mark network information associated with the individual with a priority label; and

configure a network to assign a higher priority, as compared to network information not marked with a priority label, to the marked network information.

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33. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when marking network information associated with the individual with a priority label, to mark network information produced by an application the individual is using with a priority label.

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34. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when determining if an individual belongs to one or more preferred groups, to:

10 determine if the individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups;

determine a priority privilege of the individual when the individual exists in the database; and

15 determine, when the individual exists in the database, if the priority privilege indicates that network information associated with the individual is to be prioritized.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 ~~35~~, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, when determining if an individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups, to:

20 determine if biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database; and

determine that the person is the individual and that the individual exists in the database when the biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database.

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36. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable medium having computer-readable code means embodied thereon, the computer-readable code means comprising:

30 a) a step to determine if network information is assigned to one or more preferred groups; and

b) a step to configure a network to assign a higher priority to the network information when the network information is assigned to one or more preferred groups, the higher priority being relative to network information not assigned to one or more preferred groups.

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37. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (b), a step to mark the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups with a label, the label indicating that the network information is assigned to a preferred group.

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38. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36:

wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises a step to receive the network information;

wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (a), a step to determine that the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups comprises the label; and

wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (b), a step to transmit the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups before previously received network information is sent, the previously received network information not assigned to one or more of the preferred groups.

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39. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (b):

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a step to determine if the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is being routed to or from an application running on a server; and

a step to increase resources of the application when the application is running on a server and when the network information assigned to one or more of the preferred groups is assigned to a preferred group.

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40. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (a):

a step to identify a user;

a step to determine if a user belongs to a preferred group; and

5 assign network information to a preferred group when the user belongs to a preferred group.

41. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the preferred groups comprise one or more of people with disabilities and medical professionals.

10 42. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (b):

a step to determine, at a firewall, if an application is to be blocked; and

15 a step to block network information from or to the application unless the network information is assigned to a preferred group.

43. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises, when performing step (a):

20 a step to compare input biometric data from an individual with stored biometric data in a database;

a step to determine if the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data; and

a step to determine that the network information belongs to a preferred group when the input biometric data matches the stored biometric data.

25 44. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable medium having computer-readable code means embodied thereon, the computer-readable code means comprising:

a step to request a prioritization privilege of an individual;

30 determine, by accessing a database, the prioritization privilege of the individual; and

configure a network to assign a higher priority to network information assigned to the individual when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

5 45. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein the prioritization privilege comprises one or more of dates of use information, prioritization level information, and purpose information.

46. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein the computer-  
10 readable code means further comprises, when configuring, a step to mark the network information with a label, which indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group, when the prioritization privilege indicates that the network information belongs to a preferred group.

15 47. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:  
a computer-readable medium having computer-readable code means embodied thereon, the computer-readable code means comprising:

determine if an individual belongs to one or more preferred groups;

mark network information associated with the individual with a priority

20 label; and

configure a network to assign a higher priority, as compared to network information not marked with a priority label, to the marked network information.

48. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 47, wherein the computer-  
25 readable code means further comprises, when marking network information associated with the individual with a priority label, a step to mark network information produced by an application the individual is using with a priority label.

49. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 47, wherein the computer-  
30 readable code means further comprises, when determining if an individual belongs to one or more preferred groups:

a step to determine if the individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups;

a step to determine a priority privilege of the individual when the individual exists in the database; and

5 a step to determine, when the individual exists in the database, if the priority privilege indicates that network information associated with the individual is to be prioritized.

50. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 49, wherein the computer-  
10 readable code means further comprises, when determining if an individual exists in a database that comprises the one or more preferred groups:

a step to determine if biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database; and

a step to determine that the person is the individual and that the individual  
15 exists in the database when the biometric data entered by the individual matches biometric data for a person in the database.